

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JOHANN 01486 131016Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 IO-13 /091 W
-----039307 131022Z /17

O R 130905Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7810
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DAR AS SALAAM
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JOHANNESBURG 1486

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, RH
SUBJECT: VISIT TO RHODESIA OF AFL-CIO

REF: (A) STATE 147119 (NOTAL, (B) LUSAKA 2079 (NOTAL)
(C) JOHANNESBURG A-66 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: WHILE THE AFL-CIO DELEGATION WAS CIRCUM-
SPECT IN DISCUSSING THEIR IMPRESSIONS OF THE RHODESIAN
POLITICAL/LABOR SCENE WHILE TRANSITING JAN SMUTS AIRPORT,
THEY APPEARED TO BE IMPRESSED BY THE COMPETENCE OF
A NUMBER OF RHODESIAN TRADE UNION LEADERS. THEY
APPRECIATED THE COOPERATION THEY RECEIVED FROM ALL
ELEMENTS IN THE RHODESIAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT AND WERE
GRATIFIED THAT THE VISIT WENT OFF IN A LOW-KEY MANNER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JOHANN 01486 131016Z

WITHOUT ANY UNTOWARD INCIDENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. THE AFL-CIO DELEGATION LED BY MARTY WARD, VICE
PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE;
AND INCLUDING BAYARD RUSTIN, DIRECTOR OF A. PHILIP
RANDOLPH INSTITUTE; JERRY FUNK OF AFRICAN AMERICAN
LABOR CENTER AND MARK ANDERSON, AFRICAN SPECIALIST IN

THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, WAS MET BY REGIONAL LABOR OFFICER AND PRETORIA POLITICAL OFFICER WHILE TRANSITING JAN SMUTS EN ROUTE TO RHODESIA ON JUNE 2 AND BY THE RLO WHILE RETURNING ON JUNE 9.

3. SUBJECTS DISCUSSED DURING THE JUNE 2 BRIEFING INCLUDED, INTER ALIA, THE POLITICAL/LABOR SITUATION IN RHODESIA; THE CURRENT LEADERSHIP CRISIS IN THE BOTSWANA LABOR FEDERATION (REF C); THE SOUTH AFRICAN LABOR SCENE; AND AFL-CIO STRATEGIES WITH RESPECT TO SOUTH AFRICA. THE RLO WAS ASKED TO CONVEY THE DELEGATION'S GREETINGS TO SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE UNION LEADERS WHO COULD NOT BE PRESENT IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSIT AREA.

4. AS FAR AS THE MISSION IS AWARE, SOUTH AFRICAN MEDIA HAS NOT MENTIONED THE AFL-CIO FACT FINDING MISSION TO RHODESIA. THE DELEGATION DID INDICATE TO THE RLO THAT THEIR VISIT WAS COVERED IN THE RHODESIAN PRESS AND ON RADIO AND TELEVISION. TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, JOHANNESBURG WILL MONITOR AND REPORT ON RHODESIA MEDIA COVERAGE.

5. COMMENT: WHILE THE DELEGATION WAS CIRCUMSPECT ON JUNE 9 PENDING DISCUSSION OF THEIR FINDINGS WITH THEIR SIXTEENTH STREET PRINCIPALS, THEY DID EXPRESS SATISFACTION THAT NO UNTOWARD INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN RHODESIA DURING CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JOHANN 01486 131016Z

THEIR VISIT AS A RESULT OF MEDIA COVERAGE OR OTHERWISE. THE TENTATIVE IMPRESSION THEY ONVEYED WAS THAT THE LONG STANDING TREND TOWARD POLITICIZATION OF THE RHODESIAN LABOR MOVEMENT IS CONTINUING AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE CURRENT CONFUSION OVER LONG TERM TRENDS. THE RECENTLY ESTABLISHED NATIONAL AFRICAN TRADE UNION CONGRESS APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY WEAKENED BY THE DISAFFILIATION OF THE RAILWAY WORKERS. NATUC IS A FACTOR WHICH SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED HOWEVER, DUE TO ITS ASSOCIATION WITH NKOMO. THEY WERE APPARENTLY MOST FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY PHINEAS SITHOLE OF THE OLDER AFRICAN TRADE UNION CONGRESS AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT, WITH ALBERT MUGABE OF THE NEWLY FORMED ZIMBABWE TRADE UNION CONGRESS. THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THE ZTUC HOWEVER, WAS THAT IT IS STILL LARGELY A PAPER ORGANIZATION. THE NEARLY UNIVERSAL CRITICISM OF THE LOCAL ICFTU REPRESENTATIVE, W.G. LAWRENCE, WAS ALSO NOTED. FROM A POLITICAL POINT OF VIEW, THE GENERAL IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ZIMBABWE DEPENDS CRUCISALLY ON THE ATTITUDE OF JOSHUA NKOMO TOWARD THE SO-CALLED INTERNAL SETTLEMENT.

JOHNSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JOHANN01486
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780246-0709
Format: TEL
From: JOHANNESBURG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780666/aaaacevr.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4963498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 147119, 78 LUSAKA 2079, 78 JOHANNESBURG A-66
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2377382
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT TO RHODESIA OF AFL-CIO
TAGS: ELAB, RH, AFL-CIO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4963498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014